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PATENT  
81872.0051

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

INOMATA, et al.

Serial No: 10/650,505

Filed: August 27, 2003

For: DRY ETCHING APPARATUS, DRY  
ETCHING METHOD, AND  
CLEANING METHOD ADOPTED IN  
DRY ETCHING APPARATUS

Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: Not Assigned

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10/29/04

Date

STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This application was filed on August 27, 2003 and receipt by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office was acknowledged in the Filing Receipt dated January 9, 2004. A Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document was the last correspondence from the Patent Office. However, no Office Action has yet been received. Accordingly, Applicants request to be advised of the status of the application, including an indication of when the patent application is expected to be examined.

Please send the undersigned a Status Report on this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: October 29, 2004

By:

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